



**Statement by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association
to the Senate Ways and Means Committee Supporting
Duty Suspension/Reduction Bills on Certain Golf Club Heads
(H.R. 5555)**

June 22, 2012

This statement is submitted by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) in connection with the Ways and Means Committee's request for public comment regarding certain miscellaneous tariff measures introduced in the House during the 112th Congress. SGMA wishes to express its strong support for the bill to temporarily reduce the duty on golf club wedge heads (H.R. 5555).

SGMA represents over 500 manufacturers, retailers and marketers in the sports products industry, including most of the following companies engaged in manufacture and sale of golf clubs:

Acushnet (Titleist)	Mizuno USA
Adidas (TaylorMade)	Nicklaus Golf
Boccheri Golf*	Nike
Bridgestone Golf	Paragon Golf*
Callaway	Ping
Cleveland (Srixon)	Puma (Cobra)
H&B (Powerbuilt)	SeeMore Putter
Henry-Griffits	U.S. Kids Golf*
Hippo Golf*	Wilson
King Par/Orlimar Golf*	Yonex Golf*
Merchants of Golf*	

*non-member

SGMA members have over 3,000 business centers, plants and distribution centers that employ more than 375,000 people in the United States. The sporting goods industry generates more than \$77 billion in U.S. wholesale revenue annually and \$15 billion internationally.

Introduced on May 8 by Rep. Brian Bilbray (CA), the bill would reduce through December 31, 2015 the applicable duty on golf club wedge heads (HR. 5555). This bill is a prime example of how a duty reduction bill can advance a broad range of U.S. economic interests. By reducing the duty on imports of golf club wedge heads, this provision will create an incentive for companies to locate or maintain golf club assembly operations in the United States. At the same time, the provision will help lower the cost to consumers of golf clubs assembled here in the United States.

We appreciate this opportunity to share SGMA's views with the Ways and Means Committee. Please feel free to contact us if Committee staff has any questions regarding our position on this important duty reduction bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Sells", with a horizontal line underneath the signature.

Bill Sells

Vice President, Government Relations
Sporting Goods Manufacturers Assn.
8505 Fenton Street
Suite 211
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Tel. 301-495-6321
Fax 301-495-6322
E-mail: bsells@sgma.com